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County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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June 24, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES:
ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR 2008-09
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT RAPID RESPONSE
FUNDS TO THE REGIONAL WORKFORCE GROUPS)
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS AFFECTED) (3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This Board Letter requests approval for CSS to take the following actions: 1) accept Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09 Rapid Response (RR) funds to enter into contracts with the five Regional Workforce Groups (RWG); and 2) enter into Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding agreements with the five RWGs. The RR program provides services to employers and their impacted employees affected by downsizings or layoffs by providing planning meetings, assessing layoff aversions strategies, and conducting orientations about re-employment services available.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of Community and Senior Services (CSS), or designee, to accept up to \$705,228 in FY 2008-09 WIA RR funds from the State of California Employment Development Department (EDD) for the administration and delivery of RR services to businesses and workers facing downsizing, layoffs, and plant closures.
2. Authorize the Director of CSS, or designee, to accept funding augmentations or reductions from EDD, and to adjust accordingly based on the final allocation, provided that CSS notifies the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Executive Office (CEO) in writing within ten days of acceptance of funds.

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

3. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to allocate up to a total of \$327,228 from the \$705,228, to the five RWGs listed on Attachment A, for the provision of the WIA RR services for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 with the balance of funds to be used for CSS administrative and programmatic costs. The contract costs are fully financed using WIA RR funding.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to enter into WIA funding agreements for 12 months, effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, after County Counsel approval as to form, with the five RWGs listed on Attachment A for the total amount of \$327,228.
5. Delegate authority to the Director of CSS, or designee, to execute RWG funding amendments to increase or decrease contract amounts based on contractor performance and availability of funding, after County Counsel approval as to form, provided that: a) approvals of County Counsel and the CEO are obtained prior to such amendment; and b) the Director of CSS confirms in writing to the Board of Supervisors and the CEO within 30 days after execution that such amendments have been executed. This action would assure full expenditures of funds and is consistent with the Board's policy requiring review of contractor performance.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The County of Los Angeles has been designated by the State as a Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) for the purpose of administering WIA. For FY 2008-09, the County of Los Angeles anticipates an award of \$705,228 in annual WIA RR grant funds.

In addition, the recommended actions will provide CSS with the authority to accept FY 2008-09 RR funding and to execute the funding agreements to continue the RR services to employers and their impacted employees.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the Countywide Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Organizational Effectiveness.

Performance Measures

Performance measures for the RR program are aligned with the County Performance Counts! Initiative. Rapid Response performance measures include: 1) the percentage of distressed companies contacted by the County that avail themselves of the RR; and 2) the percentage of affected employees that attend RR orientations.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost of the RR program is projected at \$705,228, of which \$378,000 will be used to fund CSS' administrative and programmatic related costs for FY 2008-09. There is no impact on the County general fund, as the WIA RR program is fully financed by WIA Title I RR funding. Funding for this program has been included in the Department's FY 2008-09 Proposed Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The RWGs will provide WIA on-site RR services to employers and their impacted employees, unless the employers request that they be provided at a WorkSource Center. These services include planning meetings, assessing layoff aversion strategies, conducting orientations about re-employment services available at the WorkSource/One-Stop Centers, and coordinating Labor-Management/Workforce Transition Committees. Under a Memorandum of Understanding between the California Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve and the WIB, both CSS and the RWGs will also conduct RR orientations for guards and reservists returning from the active duty deployment. CSS will continue to administer the RR grant to provide direct services, in coordination with the RWGs as described herein, and in coordination with the other seven WIBs.

Los Angeles County is the State sub-grantee for the RR program. Los Angeles County is responsible for providing RR services to employers and their impacted employees that meet the provisions of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act within the LWIA. The California WARN Act mandates that companies/organizations notify State/local elected officials when downsizing or plant closures result in the displacement of 75 or more employees. The intent of the law is to serve businesses and allow jurisdictions to respond and help mitigate the impact. CSS will continue to provide services to address their needs, in compliance with new State regulations, through allocation of RR funds.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The WIB grandfathered all existing WorkSource Centers into the LWIA. On June 15, 2004, your Board approved the RWG agreement, a non-financial agreement between the RWGs, the WIB, and the County, which provides that annual funding of WIA funds will be awarded to each RWG pursuant to the same funding formula through which the State allocates funding to the County. The recommended action will include FY 2008-09 RR funds in the annual funding with the five RWGs in accordance with their respective RWG agreements with the County. The five RWGs being recommended for funding serve the five Supervisorial Districts.

Monitoring Requirement

Beginning with FY 2003-04, CSS contracted with the Auditor-Controller to conduct fiscal and contract compliance monitoring of all of its contractors within the Workforce Development Branch. CSS is responsible for ensuring, through its resolution process that the reported monitoring findings are resolved and training is provided to our contractors, if necessary, and/or program policies are developed.

Attachment B provides information about each RWG's status with regard to minority and women-owned business enterprises.

The Los Angeles County WIB approved these recommendations.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES OR PROJECTS

The recommended actions will allow for the continued provision of RR services in FY 2008-09, in compliance with new State regulations, to assist businesses in distress, and ensure retention of private sector jobs within Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please mail one copy of the adopted Board letter and its attachments to Ms. Tina Hoang, CSS, 3175 West Sixth Street, Room 403, Los Angeles, CA 90020. Ms. Hoang may be reached at (213) 738-2641.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRH:MS
GP:RG:cvb

Attachments

c: Raymond G. Fortner, Jr., County Counsel
Wendy L. Watanabe, Acting Auditor-Controller

FY 2008-09 WIA RAPID RESPONSE FUNDING DISTRIBUTION	
REGIONAL WORKFORCE GROUP (RWGs)	
City of Compton Careerlink	43,659
H.S. Consortium of the EastSan Gabriel Valley dba LA Works	80,583
Hub Cities Consortium	58,162
Southeast Area Social Services Authority (SASSFA)	65,365
West San Gabriel Valley Consortium dba Career Partners	79,459
Service Providers Total	327,228

ATTACHMENT B

**FY 2008-2009
WIA RAPID RESPONSE PROGRAM
Minority/Participation/Ownership of Firms/Agencies/Entities
Percent Minority/Women Participation**

FIRM/AGENCY/ENTITY	Ownership	Partnership	Board Members	Staff
City of Compton-Compton CareerLink	N/A	N/A	100%/33%	100%/72%
Human Services Consortium of the East San Gabriel Valley dba LA Works	N/A	N/A	33%/17%	72%/72%
Hub Cities Consortium	N/A	N/A	20%/0%	100%/80%
Southeast Area Social Services Funding Authority (SASSFA)	N/A	N/A	46%/0%	53%/74%
West San Gabriel Valley Consortium dba Career Partners-Rosemead	N/A	N/A	33%/67%	50%/50%